1.

A TRUE

ACCOUNT

FROM

LISBURN

IN

IRELAND,

Of the Examination of

Robert Burdett *Painter*, Joſhua Shanks, Robert Hodſcale, *Seamen*; Thomas Gray, *Shoemaker*, Henry Moore *and* Richard Givart, *Skinners, and Inhabitants of* Limerick, *who made their Eſcape lately from thence, and give this following Account.*

9. April. 1690

LICENSED *April* 8. 1690. *J. F.*

THAT upon *Saturday* the 8*th* of *March*, between the hours of 8 or 9 of the Clock at Night, they came away in a ſmall Boat belonging to a French Merchant Man, that lay in the Pool of *Limerick*, and rowed forty ſix Miles down the River to Mr. *Vanhugards*, and after they came there, were taken Priſoners by one Captain *Barry*, who followed them with *Hue* and *Cry* from *Limerick*, who kept them there one Night, and the next day they were delivered up to Collonel *O Connor*, who likewiſe purſued them with a Boat; afterwards came the King's Boat with a Party of ſixteen Men, Commanded by Enſign *Ferreter*, together with a large Boat belonging to the *Cuſtom Houſe*, with ten or twelve Men in her, they were carryed in *O Connor*'s Boat to *Kilruſh*, and kept there one Night, being very much threatned; next Morning they were delivered into Enſign *Ferreter's* Charge, who put us aboard a Boat about ten Tuns, being the *Cuſtom-Houſe* Boat, and put down into the Hold, with a Guard of an Enſign, two Serjeants, and fourteen other Men, and the Wind being at *E. S. E.* they were brought up three Leagues that night, and came to Anchor in the dusk of the Evening; an *Engliſh* Gentleman living within three quarters of a mile of the

the Shore, the Enſign and Guard went to his Houſe, leaving to guard their Priſoners only four Souldiers and two Boatmen, with five Firelocks and five Swords, whom we entreated to let us go upon Deck, for that we were cold, which they granted; and when we got up, finding but Man to Man, we immediately fell on them, and ſecured their Arms, and ſo put them into the Hold, then weighed Anchor, hoiſed Sail, and came away the Eleventh. When theſe perſons were got (as they thought out of the Danger,) they gave the Souldiers the ſmall Boat to go aſhore, fearing ſcarcity of Proviſions, they having but ſmall quantity; and the 16*th.* following they arrived at *Londonderry*; They give an Account, that Lord *Dungan* Earl of *Limerick* is Governour there, and that they have Proviſions for 10000 Men (as they believe) for three years; there is there only two Troops of Dragoons, and two Regiments of Foot, Coll. Mac *Cillpotts* and Colloael *Feildings*, the latter neither cloathed nor armed, poor dejected diſpirited Creatures, the whole Army wants Ammunition, which by their Computation may conſiſt, ſuch as they are, in number of 40000 Horſe and Foot; they are ſo diſſident of their withſtanding the *Engliſh* Army, that ſeveral of their Officers, when commanded to the Frontiers, take Certificates from the *Engliſh* Gentry, ſignifying they had been Civil to them; and the only thing they depend upon and encourage them by, is the hopes they have of a difference between the *Engliſh*; They declared, they heard ſeveral Officers ſay, That if the *Engliſh* Army knew in what a bad Condition they were in, they would not be long in paying them a Viſit: They alſo declare, that the Officers ſay, That K. *J.* does not intend a field Fight, but to ſtand upon their Defence in the Garriſons. That a *French* Privateer of 14 Guns took a Merchant Man of 80 Tuns in the Sound of the *Dorſeys*, which was bound for *London*, and unloaded her in *Lymerick*, and now have loaded her out with Oates for *Dubhn*; there are 2 Veſſels loaden at *Limerick*, when they came away, with Beef, Hides and Tallow, bound for *Rochell*, and ready to Sale, the one 130 Tuns and 6 Guns, and the other about 80 Tuns; they are every hour expecting Forces from *France*, and have been ſo this 3 Months; but thoſe belonging to the *French* Privateer, ſay, they have not Men enough to ſale their own Ships; that moſt of the *French* are gone back to *France*, by Order of the *French* King; and that they heard many of them in *Limerick* curſe the day that ever they came for *Ireland*, where they muſt be oblig'd to fight for Braſs Money; They are building a Powder Mill there, and a *French* Man hath been making *Salt Peter* theſe 6 Months, but it does not prove good; the whole Country is Armed from 16 to 60; the Proteſtants are not in Reſtraint, but have many hardſhips put on them by Quartering of Souldiers; The Counties of *Lamerick*, *Clare* and *Cork*, have plenty of all ſorts of Cattle and Grain, and there is a great deal of Land plowed and ſowed; the moſt part of their Horſes and Foot lye about *Swords*.

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